

one very long; surface punctured, ashy, the sides occupied by a dark-brown streak or elongate patch, of very irregular outline and broken throughout with short spots and lines of the ashy ground-colour of the elytra. Body beneath clothed with ashy pile. Legs reddish; hind tibiæ with rather long apical spurs.

Ega.

[To be continued.]

XXXVIII.—Notice of a new Species of *Kinixys* and other Tortoises from Central Africa. By Dr. J. E. GRAY, F.R.S. &c.

AMONG the other very interesting zoological specimens brought from Central Africa by Capt. Speke, and presented to the British Museum, is an imperfect specimen of a Land-Tortoise, which appears to indicate the existence of a species that has not hitherto been recorded in the catalogues.

I therefore propose to record it provisionally as *Kinixys Spekii*, hoping that some other traveller will be able to bring more perfect specimens, and thus give us a more complete notion of the animal.

*Kinixys Spekii*.

Shell oblong, rather depressed, pale brown; the dorsal and upper part of the marginal plates yellow, deeply and distinctly concentrically grooved, with a black spot on the areola of each shield. The areola of the dorsal plates subcentral, small, granular, of the marginal plates small, rather behind the middle of the shields. The nuchal plate distinct, oblong-elongate. The sternum flat, convex on the sides, yellow, varied with numerous black-brown rays, which reach nearly to the margin; the anterior part of the sternum rather produced and truncated in front, the gular plates being short and rather small; the hinder end of the sternum short and rounded, and slightly nicked in the middle.

It is most like *K. Homeana*; but unfortunately it wants the hinder moveable part of the back, and therefore we cannot tell whether it has the prominence of the upper part of the fifth vertebral plate, which is characteristic of that species.

It differs from the older specimens of that genus (and the young have not occurred to me) in being longer and more oblong, and it has a very distinctly marked, large square spot occupying the areola of each of the dorsal plates, and a smaller but equally distinct black spot occupies the upper part of the areola of each of the marginal plates.

It may be only a richly coloured specimen of the young of *K. Homeana*; but the adult animal shows no indications of